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L10: Entry 10 of 117 File: PGPB Jun 30, 2005

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20050141836 A1
TITLE: Method of metallizing non-conductive substrates and metallized non-conductive substrates formed thereby

Detail Description Paragraph:
[0021] Optionally, portions of the fiber 6 can be masked to prevent metal layer formation thereon during subsequent processing. For example, prevention of metal film formation on the end of the fiber is generally desired. Masking techniques are known in the art and described, for example, in the aforementioned U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,380,559 and 6,355,301. The masking may be accomplished chemically by selective deactivation of previously activated portions of the fiber using, for example, an acidified aqueous solution of stannous halide such as used for sensitizing. Alternatively, the activated portion of the fiber to be masked can be coated with a strippable polymer to provide mechanical deactivation of the fiber. Such a coating can be formed, for example, from a solution composed of KEL-F 800 resin, available from 3M Corporation, in amyl acetate. The coating is dried in moving air at 75.degree. C. for a period of from about five to about ten minutes. Further, there are commercially available plating mask mixtures available.

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